

Upland Game Bird Enhancement Program Council

Draft Agenda

October 20, 2009 (optional)

October 21-22, 2009

Sheridan County Courthouse Jubilee room

(100 W. Laurel Ave. – Plentywood, MT)

Objectives:

- 1) Tour various Pheasant release sites and UGBHEP projects in Sheridan and Roosevelt Counties—gain additional familiarity with UGBEP function and issues.
- 2) Receive public comments.
- 3) Strategic planning discussions/assembling recommendations pertaining to the Upland Game Bird Release Program.
- 4) Identify procedural agenda and council tasks.

Agenda:

Tuesday, October 20, 2009 (OPTIONAL)

2:30 – 4:00 Gather at FWP Headquarters in Glasgow to tour various UGBHEP projects, including a conservation easement. *Tour guides are Pat Gunderson, Harold Wentland, and Kelvin Johnson.*

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

8:45 – 9:00 Gather at Sherwood Inn parking lot, board vans for tour. *Breakfast on your own. Water and snacks provided. Tour guides are Scott Thompson and Mike Jensen.*

9:00 – 9:45 Travel to Dagmar/Ed Smith's

9:45 – 10:30 Visit with Ed Smith/Sand Hills Block Management Area (BMA). Discussion of pheasant release process and habitat assessment. **Pheasant Release Site #1:** Council will have the opportunity to learn hands-on how FWP assesses a site for pheasant releases. Discussion on Block Management and emergency upland game bird feeding.

10:30 – 11:15 Travel to Froid/McCabe. Route takes us through multiple BMAs and enters Roosevelt County where pheasants are not released.

11:15 – 12:15 **Froid/McCabe BMAs**– View mature upland game bird habitat projects including shelterbelts (expired 292) and nesting cover (903). Discussion on Block Management continued and access to expired projects.

12:15 – 12:45 Travel to Medicine Lake

12:45 – 1:30 Lunch

1:30 – 1:45 Travel to Antelope

1:45 – 2:30 **Antelope BMA/Plentywood BMA.** Discussion on MOU with Sheridan County and habitat projects. Emergency upland game bird feeding discussion.

2:30 – 2:50 **Travel to Plentywood area/Paul Overgaard.** Route takes us through multiple BMAs and pheasant release sites.

2:50 – 3:20 **Paul Overgaard project. Pheasant Release Site #2:** Council will have the opportunity to learn hands-on how to assess a site for pheasant releases. Discuss characteristics of pheasant habitat; UGBHEP project; pheasant release site.

3:20 – 3:30 Travel to Ken Marsh's

3:30 – 4:00 **Visit pheasant rearing pens**

4:05 Return to Plentywood

Dinner will be on your own

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm: Meet at Sheridan County Courthouse Jubilee room for an open house meeting with local sportsmen, landowners, and other interested parties.

Agenda:

Thursday, October 22, 2009

- 7:45 – 8:00 am Gather at the Jubilee Room, Sheridan County Courthouse. *Coffee, juice, fruit, and assorted pastries provided.*
- 8:00 – 8:15 am General housekeeping – per diem, facilities, etc. (*French, Hohler, Jensen*)
- 8:15 – 8:30 am Meeting focus: Upland Game Bird Release and Supplemental Pheasant Feeding Projects; Upland Game Bird Enhancement Program expenditures and upland game bird license sales (handout); acceptance of September 23, 2009 minutes;. (*French*)
- 8:30 – 9:00 am Upland Game Bird Hunting License sales and UGBEP expenditures (handout) (*Council, FWP Staff*)
- 9:00 – 10:00 Strategic Planning (detailed discussion): Upland Game Bird Releases and Supplemental Pheasant Feeding Projects. Strategic Plan Outline with Department comments copied below: (*Council, FWP staff*)

- a) Upland Game Bird Release and Supplemental Pheasant Feeding Projects
 - i) Release Projects
 - (1) How do release projects fulfill Program goals?
 - (2) Habitat Systems and Scale (*What analysis of habitat is necessary for developing a release agreement? What habitat components are needed for Area Open to Hunting? Should a prioritization scheme be developed to assure releases take place in the highest priority areas when interest exceeds funding? If so, what priority criteria should be used?*)
 - (3) Upland Game Bird Release Timing and Age (*What should be the seasonal timeframe for releasing? Age of released pheasants?*)
 - ii) Feeding Projects
 - (1) How do feeding projects fulfill Program goals?
 - (2) Habitat Systems and Scale (*Consider current weather criteria for feeding pheasants. Are there changes that would make this more effective?*)
 - iii) Partitioning Funding (*What is the appropriate portion of UGBEP funds to be dedicated to pheasant release/feeding?*)

10:00 – 10:15 am Break

10:15 – 12:00 pm	Strategic Planning (detailed discussion): Upland Game Bird Releases and Supplemental Pheasant Feeding Projects – continued. <i>(Council, FWP staff)</i>
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch. <i>Lunch will be provided for Council Members.</i>
1:00 – 3:00 pm	Strategic Planning (detailed discussion): Upland Game Bird Releases and Supplemental Pheasant Feeding Projects – continued. <i>(Council, FWP staff)</i>
3:00 – 3:15 pm	Break
3:15 – 4:00 pm	Region 6 Program Priorities and Strategic Implementation: Focus areas, biological, economic and recreational opportunities/limitations, resource needs, other issues. <i>(R6 Staff, Council)</i>
4:00 – 4:30 pm	Public Comments <i>(French)</i>
4:30 – 5:00 pm	Wrap-up, Review Assignments, and Adjourn <i>(French)</i>